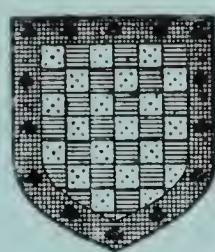


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BOROUGH OF



GRANTHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Health of the Borough

for the Year

1948

BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

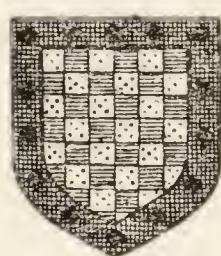


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BOROUGH OF

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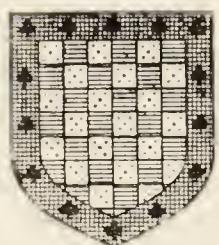


*With the Compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Public Health Department,
16 St. Peter's Hill,
Grantham.*



BOROUGH OF



GRANTHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

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Sanitary Inspector

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman R. Lee, J.P. (Chairman)
 Councillor J. W. Smith, J.P. (Vice-Chairman)
 Alderman B. H. Sindall
 Councillor Mrs. L. Basford, J.P.
 Councillor H. Cant
 Councillor E. Hardy
 Councillor H. J. Pacey
 Councillor Mrs. D. Shipman
 Councillor T. A. Smith

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Alderman A. Eatch (Chairman)
 Councillor Mrs. L. Basford, J.P. (Vice-Chairman)
 Alderman Mrs. S. A. Barnes
 Alderman A. Roberts
 Councillor Mrs. S. Brace
 Councillor W. H. Dale
 Councillor Mrs. D. Shipman
 Councillor T. A. Smith
 Councillor Mrs. V. Webster

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:
 R. F. McKEOWN, M.B., B.A.O., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:
 S. F. NOTT, C.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.
 (retired 31st March, 1948).

Sanitary Inspector:
 C. TAYLOR, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Health Visitor:
 MISS S. FORD

Additional Health Visitor:
 MRS. E. HOLLAND

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

16, St. Peter's Hill,
Grantham.

July, 1949.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Grantham.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the health, sanitary conditions, and vital statistics of the Borough for the year 1948.

The event of the year under review was undoubtedly the coming into operation on the 5th July of the National Health Service Act, which must surely come to be regarded as a mile stone in our social legislation. Although many aspects of the Act are still the subject of sharp controversy, the changes in our local health services took place smoothly and with little or no dislocation. The changes most directly affecting the Borough Council were the handing over to the Kesteven County Council of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services, diphtheria immunisation and administration of the St. Catherine's Road Day Nursery. There has in effect been little alteration in the scope of these services so far. The Isolation Hospital in Gorse Lane which has not been used since early in 1947, was handed over to the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

A notable event in our local administration was the retirement at the end of March, after a long and faithful term of office, of Mr. S. F. Nott, the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Much of the efficiency of the present Public Health Department is undoubtedly due to his work, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Nott, personally, for his service, and especially for his unreserved co-operation and help during my own term of office. It was decided that Mr. Taylor, who succeeded Mr. Nott, should try, for a period, to carry out the duties single handed, but it early became apparent that this could not be done satisfactorily, and I am glad to report that at the time of writing, steps are well advanced towards appointing an Additional Sanitary Inspector.

During the year the staff of the Public Health Department was augmented by the appointment of a Junior Clerk; the increase, while not bringing the department up to the full proposed establishment, has proved sufficient to keep the work up-to-date and provide for holidays, and temporary depletion of staff for other reasons.

There has been no marked change in the overall health statistics of the borough during the year. There was a slight fall in the birth rate compared to last year but this still remains slightly higher than the average for the country as a whole. The infant mortality rate showed a very slight rise from 31.3 in 1947 to 31.8 (1946—35.9). This is a tendency which must be carefully guarded against, the reduction still further of the loss of infant lives must be our constant aim. While the County Maternity and Child Welfare Services are now most directly concerned with this problem the effects of overcrowding, unsatisfactory housing conditions, and sanitation generally, must also be borne in mind. There were no maternal deaths during the year.

During the earlier months of the year there was a considerable epidemic of measles which was in many cases quite severe. Fortunately no deaths were recorded and there do not appear to have been many of the complications which are so common after measles. Whooping Cough was also more prevalent than in the previous year. Scarlet Fever continued to be of the very mild type prevailing in recent years, and out of 65 cases 10 were sent to hospital. The policy of nursing these cases at home where conditions permitted, appears to have been amply justified. Only once was contact with a case nursed at home, traced as the possible cause, and this was where instructions had not been adhered to.

There were no cases of typhoid fever, dysentery, typhus fever or smallpox, and there was fortunately no recurrence of the previous year's outbreak of Infantile Paralysis.

As much time as possible is being devoted to supervising the conditions under which food is prepared and handled, and while this work has been considerably hampered by staff limitations, many improvements have been achieved. It is hoped that when the Additional Sanitary Inspector starts work, more attention to this aspect of our work and more frequent inspections may be possible. In many cases where desired improvement has been brought about it can be maintained only by regular inspection and advice. Some improvement of conditions at the slaughterhouse was attained by paving part of the yard, but the present building is not satisfactory for centralised slaughtering. It is inadequate in size, inspection is often difficult and proper dressing and storing of the meat is not

possible. An early decision on the Government's policy with regard to slaughtering is most desirable so that steps can be taken towards improvement. Mr. Taylor has again devoted much overtime to meat inspection.

Considerable advances were made during the year towards eliminating pollution from the River Witham and its tributary, the Mowbeck, as they pass through the town. There has been an appreciable improvement in the appearance of the water in both, and oil on the surface of the former has been much less noticeable.

During the year, fifteen houses were dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and demolition orders were served or undertakings not to relet for human habitation were obtained in all cases. It is hoped that the tenants who remain in some of these houses will not have to wait unduly long for re-housing. One serious difficulty for which a solution has yet to be found is that the tenants in many of these houses would be unable to pay the rent of the new Council houses. Some relief may be possible when small dwellings for old people are provided. The housing programme of the Council continued to be ambitious and progressive.

The pumping and chlorination part of the new equipment for the Dysart and Wyndham Park swimming pools was installed in time for operation during the bathing season, and there was a remarkable improvement in both the appearance of the water and its quality, as judged by samples analysed.

The essential details of vital statistics, the report of the Senior Health Visitor on the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services up to July 5th, and the Sanitary Inspector's report will be found in the pages following.

I should like again to thank the Council for their interest in all health matters brought to their notice, my colleagues in other departments for their help and friendly interest, and the staff of the Public Health Department for another year of loyalty and hard work.

I am, ladies and gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. F. McKEOWN.

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

STATISTICS

Population (Census 1931)	...	...	19709
Population (estimated for year)	...	...	22890
Area of Borough	...	...	3868 acres
Rateable Valuation (1st April, 1948)	...	£139353	
Rateable Valuation (31st December 1948)	£142510		
Sum represented by penny rate (year ending 31st March, 1948)	...	£578 6 0	

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	190	207	397
Illegitimate	...	20	23	43
Birth rate per thousand estimated population	...	...		19.2
Average for England and Wales	...			17.9
STILL BIRTHS		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	7	8	15
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 live births	...	...	31.8
Average for England and Wales	...		34

DEATHS		M.	F.	Total
Number of Deaths	...	157	111	268
Deaths per 1,000 estimated population				11.7
Average for England and Wales	...			10.8

MATERNAL DEATHS

Deaths from Maternal causes	...	0
Maternal mortality per 1,000 total births)	...	0
Average for England and Wales	...	1.02

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS

Notifications received during the year

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	65	10	—
Pneumonia	14	—	9
Measles	752	—	—
Whooping Cough	108	2	1
Diphtheria	1	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Anthrax	2	2	—
Total	944	15	10

Age distribution of the Notified infectious Diseases

					Not Known	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total
Scarlet Fever	2	3	7	13	27	9	2	2	65	
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	2	1	...	1	1	...	2	2	14
Measles	...	...	...	10	34	83	105	102	112	284	13	2	3	2	1	...	1	752
Whooping Cough	...	...	2	8	14	14	24	10	33	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	108	
Diphtheria	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anthrax	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...			16	42	99	122	134	136	346	25	5	7	3	2	1	4	2	944	

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	Deaths during 1948				New cases during 1948			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5—15 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
15—25 years ...	1	2	—	—	1	4	—	—
25—35 years ...	2	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
35—45 years ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 years ...	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
55—65 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not known ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Total ...	8	4	1	1	6	6	1	2

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALE	FEMALE
All causes	157	111
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal fever... ...	1	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping cough	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	8	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	2
Syphilitic diseases	2	—
Influenza	—	—
Measles	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—
Acute Infantile Encephalitis	—	—
Cancer	24	20
Diabetes	—	—
Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	23	14
Heart disease	43	35
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	4	6
Bronchitis	17	7
Pneumonia	6	3
Other respiratory diseases ...	—	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	4	—
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—
Other digestive diseases ...	3	3
Nephritis	2	1
Maternal Causes	—	—
Premature births	2	—
Infantile diseases	4	2
Suicide	—	2
Road traffic accidents	1	1
Other violent causes ...	2	1
All other causes	11	8

DEATHS FROM CANCER

	Cancer of :					
	Buc;cav; & oesoph;(m) uterus (f)	Stomach and duodenum	Breast	All other sites	Total	Rate per 1,000 population
Male	2	6	...	16	24	1.04
Female	1	1	5	13	20	.87
Total	3	7	5	29	44	1.91

DAY NURSERY

Average weekly attendances during the six months ending
June, 1948.

Month	Under 2	Over 2	Total
January	40.6	70.6	111.2
February	32.5	72.22	104.72
March	39.0	74.0	113.0
April	47.0	99.0	146.0
May	31.75	97.5	129.25
June	53.2	112.0	165.2

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to December 31st, 1948.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 ANNUAL RETURN OF M.O.H.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector)

Premises	Number on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	58	12	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	142	74	6	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers)	—	—	—	—
Total	200	86	6	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Reme-died	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	...	6	6	...	...
Overcrowding
Unreasonable temperature
Inadequate ventilation
Ineffective drainage of floors
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	...	2	2	...	I
(b) Usuitable or defective	...	4	4	...	I
(c) Not separate for sexes
Other Offences against the Act (not including those relating to Outwork)	...	4	4	...	I
Total	...	16	16	...	3

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

NURSING IN THE HOME

Home Nursing and domiciliary midwifery is still carried out by the District Nurses stationed at the District Nurses Home, Castlegate.

HOME HELPS.

Help for cases of illness and maternity cases is provided through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 40, Westgate. This service was taken over by the Kesteven County Council on July 5th, 1948.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The Grantham General Hospital and the Hillview Hospital, Dysart Road, cater for the needs of the area.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS.

Maternity Accommodation is provided at the above two hospitals.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

There being no isolation hospital in the immediate neighbourhood accommodation when required has to be sought in neighbouring areas.

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS.

Sanatorium treatment for cases requiring it is arranged by the Regional Hospital Board who are now responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) PROVIDED BY THE KESTEVEN COUNTY COUNCIL.

Ante-natal Clinics:

At 40, Westgate on alternate Mondays.

Child Welfare:

Six clinics weekly held at the Clinic, 40, Westgate—Dr. in attendance once weekly.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

At the Child Welfare Clinic on Tuesday afternoons, and at clinics held at specially arranged times for reinforcing doses. Free immunisation can also be arranged with general practitioners.

A short report by the Senior Health Visitor of the services carried out at the Clinic, 40, Westgate, up till 5th July on behalf of the Grantham Borough Council is appended.

School Clinic:

Beaconfield. Minor ailments daily 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. in attendance Tuesday 9.30 a.m. Dental and other specialist services by appointment.

Day Nursery:

The Day Nursery, St. Catherines Road provides for children of working parents. At present there is a considerable waiting list

This nursery previously administered by the Grantham Borough Council was taken over by the County Council on July 5th, 1948.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

Tuberculosis:

The dispensary previously held at 29, Watergate by the Kesteven County Council has now been superceded by a weekly session held by the Chest Physician in the Grantham Hospital Out Patients' Department, on Monday mornings.

Venereal Diseases:

The weekly clinic previously held at 29, Watergate by the Kesteven County Council has been superceded by a weekly session in the Out Patients' Department of Grantham Hospital—for the time being on Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological investigations are amply provided for by the Public Health Laboratory, St. Edmunds Chambers, Bank Street, Lincoln. All necessary chemical analyses are done by Mr. W. W. Taylor, Public Analyst, Nottingham.

**Report of the Senior Health Visitor on services carried out at
the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 40, Westgate,
Grantham, between 1st January, 1948, and 4th July, 1948.**

To the Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses of the Borough of
Grantham

Ladies and Gentlemen,

MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE

I beg to submit my report for the period 1st January, 1948, to 4th July, 1948.

NOTIFICATIONS OF BIRTHS

		1948	1947
Total ...	...	343	376
Illegitimate ...	...	21	24
(One of the latter cases was born in Grantham and Kesteven General Hospital and 16 were born in Kesteven County Institution)			
Stillbirths ...	...	9	5
Cases attended by a Doctor and Midwife ...		77	101
Cases attended by Midwives ...		49	53
Cases born in Grantham and Kesteven General Hospital ...		91	81
Total ...		<u>343</u>	<u>376</u>

VISITING

Primary Visits to babies ...	214	244
Revisits to babies under 2 months	109	130
Revisits to babies 2 to 6 months	275	343
Revisits to babies 6 to 12 months	309	353
Revisits to children 1 to 2 years	598	548
Revisits to children 2 to 5 years	1601	1592
Total ...	<u>3106</u>	<u>3210</u>

			1948	1947
Children Breast fed	...	...	140	174
Children partially breast fed	...	...	20	9
Children artificially fed	...	...	54	61
Stillbirths	...	...	4	4
Deaths	...	...	8	6
Households visited	...	...	3499	3565

SPECIAL VISITS

In connection with cases due for Ophthalmic Treatment	...	4	59
In connection with Orthopaedic Cases	...	4	8

SPECIAL VISITS

In connection with Ante-Natal Dental Scheme	...	1	1
Visits to Sick Children	...	46	88
Visits in conjunction with N.S.P.C.C.	...	17	23
Interviews in connection with Diphtheria Immunisation	...	515	482
Inspections of Day Nursery	...	12	11
Interviews	...	15	20
Sanitary Defects	...	7	7

USELESS VISITS

Families out	...	330	272
Removals to other areas and to others houses in the Borough		121	150
Children from birth to 5 years transferred to other areas	...	204	
(82 of these children were born in Grantham and Kesteven General Hospital and 36 in Kesteven County Institution)			
Children from birth to 5 years transferred to Grantham	...	109	

CILDREN ACT, 1908, AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1932.

Primary Visits	...	...	2
Revisits	...	...	28
Special Visits	...	...	7

One foster-mother and child have removed from another area to Grantham and are approved and registered.

One foster-mother has received a second child into her home.

One child has been removed to a Registered Adoption Society.

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (REGULATIONS) ACT, 1939

		1948	1947
Visits to prospective adopters ...		10	
Special Visits ...	...	4	
Children Adopted ...	...	2	

INFANT CLINICS

Total Attendances ...	...	4738	4295
Total names on Clinic Register ...		703	744

ULTRA VIOLET RAY TREATMENT

Sessions held ...	...	49	50
Cases treated ...	...	41	61
Treatments Given ...	...	214	484

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Clinics held ...	...	12	12
Total attendances ...	...	347	300
Cases examined ...	...	145	122
94 Priority Sheet Dockets issued to 47 Expectant Mothers.			

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

Primary Injections

First Injections ...	...	145	126
Cases completed ...	...	136	97
Re-Inforcing Injections ...	...	272	

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT

Sixteen children have been examined by the Orthopaedic Specialist at Beaconfield.

Treatment was advised in six cases and built up shoes were advised in ten cases.

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT

Children recommended for Ophthalmic Treatment ...	...	10
Re-examinations by the Ophthalmic Surgeon ...	...	24

DENTAL TREATMENT

Children recommended for Dental Treatment	17
-----------------------------------------------	-----	----

MILK AND OTHER FOODS SUPPLIED

Dried Milk distributed at full cost ...		4761	lbs.
Amount received		£546	14 8
Virol distributed at full cost		70	lbs.
Amount received		£9	16 11
Total amount received and paid to Borough Treasurer from sale of Milk and other foods		£725	7 5

NATIONAL SAVINGS GROUP

Sale of Savings Stamps	£12	11	0
Cash converted into Savings Certificates	£ 2	0	0

HOME HELP SERVICE

Eleven Home Helps are on regular duty at fifteen cases.

Domestic help has been given in twelve confinement cases by four Home Helps and temporary assistance has been given by eight Home Helps in nineteen cases.

Three Home Helps were available for duty.

Three Home Helps have been booked for duty at nine cases at advanced dates.

INTERVIEWS IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOME HELP SCHEME

Of cases requiring assistance	53
Of cases requiring employment	90
Special Visits paid to prospective Home Helps and persons requiring assistance	44

HOME HELP CONFERENCE

A Round Table Conference for Home Help Organisers and others directly concerned with Home Help Schemes was attended at the Guildhall, Lincoln, on 26th February, 1948. A detailed report was submitted.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. FORD, Senior Health Visitor.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR UPON THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Grantham

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In reporting upon the activities of the past year it is satisfactory to record that the difficulties experienced in the preceding post-war years in securing abatement of nuisances lessened somewhat with the gradual improvement in the availability of building materials and labour, and complaints received of sexual and statutory overcrowding were far less numerous as a result of the extensive house building programme which has been carried out by the Borough Council. At the same time a rough estimate shows that some fifteen per cent of houses in the borough are 80 to 100 years old, many of which are badly arranged and lack satisfactory amenities, while the true state of overcrowding conditions could not be properly assessed without carrying out a general comprehensive survey. The problem of dealing with these old properties and eventual re-housing of the tenants at a rental within their means remains an outstanding one when reviewing the sanitary circumstances of the district.

A summary of inspections and visits made during 1948 is given on page 22, and further comments and statistics are given below under appropriate headings.

WATER SUPPLY

The Grantham Waterworks own the water undertaking, and the quality and quantity of the water distributed throughout the town was satisfactory. Twenty-two samples of water taken during the year were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln for bacteriological examination and reported upon favourably. From information kindly supplied by F. A. Gibson, Esq., Engineer and Managing Director of the Grantham Waterworks Co., the consumption of water for all purposes during 1948 was 484,100,000 gallons, and the number of supplies on their records at the end of the year was 7,616.

As a result of informal action the use of a shallow well from which nine houses derived a water supply was discontinued, each house being provided with an independent piped supply from the public mains.

Below is a copy of a report received from W. W. Taylor, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Public Analyst, upon a sample of water taken from the public supply in July, 1948.

This sample contains per 100,000 parts:—

Chemical

Total Solids dried at 180° C.	...	40.00
Suspended Matter	...	0.010
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	...	0.10
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	...	Absent
Free Ammonia	...	0.0032
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	0.0064
Temporary Hardness	...	17.00
Permanent Hardness	...	12.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80° F. from N/80 KMnO ₄	...	0.020
pH value	...	7.60
Appearance	...	Slightly Turbid
Odour	...	None
Taste and colour	...	Normal
Heavy Metals	...	Absent
Free Chlorine (parts per million)		0.060

Bacteriological

No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21° C. in 72 hours	...	1
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37° C. in 24 hours	...	1
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37° C in 48 hours	...	1
Coli aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37° C. in 48 hours	...	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44° C. in 48 hours	...	0
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)	...	Absent in 100 mils.

Opinion

At the time of sampling, this water was of satisfactory bacterial and chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes.

After due consideration by the Health Committee the ancient public water supply in the Market Place, known as the Conduit, which was subject to pollution from time to time was permanently disconnected.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Observations of the River Witham and its small tributary, The Mowbeck, were made periodically, and a certain amount of pollution was still on occasions very evident, but

the comprehensive survey referred to in the previous Annual Report was completed, and revealed a number of inlets carrying oil and other impurities from industrial premises to these watercourses. Negotiations took place with occupiers of the various premises some of whom have adopted suggestions for minimising any risk of further pollution; others have not yet taken any practical steps in the matter and the Health Committee continues to pursue an active policy to ensure that these watercourses are not subject to pollution at any point during their progress through the borough.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERS

Approximately 890 yards of new foul sewer and 630 yards of surface water sewers were provided in the Harrowby Lane and Belton Lane area in connection with the development of new housing sites.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Ten conversions of pail closets to the water carriage system were completed by the end of the year, nine in the Barrowby High Road and one in the Gonerby Hill Foot district. One waste water closet believed to be the last of this type in the borough, was converted to a fresh water closet.

The number of houses now remaining with pail closet accommodation is 39.

In accordance with the arrangements made by the Council in 1947, the service provided for the removal of pail closet contents on a twice weekly basis continued to function satisfactorily and gave no cause for complaint.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

Removal of house and trade refuse was carried out weekly and the service was efficiently maintained. Four S.D. Freighters were operated on household refuse collection and one Commer Lorry and one Commer Van for salvage purposes. Three of the freighters were thoroughly overhauled and new bodies fixed.

The arrangements whereby refuse removal was carried out at the Alma Park Estate which is outside the borough boundary were discontinued from the 1st September at the request of the West Kesteven Rural District Council.

Disposal of refuse was by incineration at the Council's Destructor Works, but some surplus refuse was deposited at the Dyart Road Tip, particularly during the winter months.

A special report was submitted to the Health Committee in October upon the future problems of refuse disposal in

the borough, and in view of the limitations, age of the present Destructor and increasing yield of refuse, full consideration was being given to this matter with a view to providing disposal facilities sufficiently adequate to meet the needs of the borough in the future.

Salvage activities proved to be very successful and the total income derived from the sale of salvaged materials was £3,290 17s. Od.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No statutory action was taken during the year in respect of excessive smoke pollution from factory chimneys, although from cursory observations it was apparent that one or two firms were offenders from time to time; atmospheric pollution caused from these particular sources is a matter of concern to your Health Department Officials, but so far pressure of other work has largely prevented any serious tackling of the problem.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

No licences were issued authorising the use of any site for moveable dwellings; one dwelling van was removed from an unlicenced site following informal notice.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919 INFESTATION ORDER, 1943

The Borough Council administer the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and one Rodent Officer is engaged for the purpose of survey work and treatment of premises. Following the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Circular No. N.S.11, the decision to carry out treatment of infestations at private dwellings free of charge, resulted in an increased number of notifications of rat infestations being received. The sewers were given two maintenance treatments and attention was also given to other local authority property. Treatments were carried out at 64 private dwellings and at 39 business premises and 750 inspections and visits were made by the Rodent Officer during the year.

Since the introduction of the Infestation Order, 1943, rodent control work has been concentrated on the sewers, refuse tip and business premises known to be subject to infestations, and many small isolated infestations at private dwellings have been cleared, and there is no reason to doubt that good results have been achieved; it must be recorded, however, that piggeries and poultry runs on the several allotments in the town remain sources of rat infestations, but so far efforts made to deal with this aspect of the problem have met

with no real success; only the fullest co-operation from allotment-holders and proper co-ordination with this Department would materially assist in reducing these infestations to negligible proportions and so contribute to the overall efforts being made to eliminate these food destroying and potential disease carrying pests.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1948

Complaints reported to the Public Health Department	314
Inspections and re-visits of dwellings and other premises where nuisances were found	1305
Inspection of premises upon complaint where no nuisances were found	15
Inspection of Houses (Housing Act, 1936)	15
Reinspection of Houses (Housing Act, 1936)	61
In connection with overcrowding (Housing Act, 1936)	70
Miscellaneous visits to properties other than above	102
Visits in connection with drainage of premises	175
Visits to bakehouses	27
,, „ cowsheds and dairies	52
„ „ ice cream premises	53
„ „ food preparing premises	40
„ „ factories (with mechanical power)	74
„ „ factories (with no mechanical power)	12
„ „ fried fish shops	22
„ „ markets, shops and stalls	70
„ „ offensive trade premises	13
„ „ dwelling vans	3
„ „ verminous premises	25
„ „ rat infested lands and premises	12
„ „ cafes	18
„ „ cinemas and places of public entertainment	5
„ „ shops (Shops Act, 1934, Section 10)	5
„ „ slaughter house	340
„ „ wholesale meat supply depot	35
„ in connection with river pollution	30
„ „ „ „ water supply	34
„ „ „ „ refuse collection and disposal	180
„ „ „ „ infectious disease	64
Smoke observations taken	4
Inspection of licensed premises	11
Number of interviews with builders and owners	165
Number of samples of water taken for analysis	25
Number of informal notices served	229
Number of Statutory Notices served	32

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

(a) Sampling of Food.

The Chief Weights and Measures Inspector (Mr. E. T. Hawley) for the Kesteven County Council has kindly supplied the following information relating to samples taken within the Borough of Grantham during 1948.

"71 Samples were obtained; 65 of milk and one each of beef juice, fish paste, meat soup, olive oil, pork pie, and strawberry jam. The samples other than milk were all found to be genuine, while 63 of the 65 samples of milk were similarly satisfactory. In two cases, however, the Public Analyst certified that samples of milk contained added water."

Sample No. 55 contained 4.9% of added water and led to the issuing of a written caution following full investigation into the circumstances; Sample No. 58 contained 4% of added water, but further follow-up samples from the same source proved genuine.

(b) Sale and Manufacture of Ice cream

Number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream at the end of 1948	...	...	...	33
Number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream at the end of 1948	...	...	...	9

During the year four premises were registered for the sale of ice cream and one for the manufacture of ice cream.

Periodic visits were made to all ice cream premises and 28 ice cream samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln. No faecal coli was found in any of the samples, but in 13 instances coliform bacilli was present in 3 out of 3 tubes innoculated with 1/10th mill. The Laboratory was apparently not equipped to carry out methylene blue tests on ice cream until the latter part of the year when 12 samples examined were classified as follows:—two in Grade 1, nine in Grade 2, and one in Grade 4.

All ice cream dealers were advised upon the importance and necessity for thorough sterilisation of all utensils and apparatus used in connection with ice cream.

MILK SUPPLY

(a) Producers and Retail Purveyors of Milk

Number of registered producers (retailers) in the borough	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of registered producers (wholesalers) in the borough	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Number of registered purveyors (retail) whose premises are situate within the borough	13
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Number of registered retail purveyors whose premises are situate outside the borough	7
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Two cowkeepers discontinued the business of milk production and were deleted from the register. The amount of milk produced in the borough is relatively small in comparison to the amount retailed, but all cowsheds were visited periodically, and towards the end of the year notice was served to relay a defective floor of one cowshed.

(b) Sampling of Ungraded Milk.

The number of samples of ungraded milk taken was thirty-one of which seven were reported to be of an unsatisfactory bacteriological standard; as mentioned in a previous report the lack of a wholesome water supply in parts of the adjoining rural district is a serious disadvantage with which some milk producers have to contend.

(c) Examination of Milk for Tubercl Bacilli.

The arrangements made in 1945 with the County Health Authorities for samples of all milk retailed in the borough to be taken periodically for biological testing were continued, and samples from forty-two producers were submitted for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli, none being found positive.

It is interesting to note that since first commencing this programme of biological milk sampling, 279 samples have been taken, 6 of which were found to be positive, i.e. 2.15%. While this percentage is believed to be low in comparison to results obtained in many parts of the country, the danger to public health from the consumption of tuberculous milk is still very real, and even the smallest percentage of samples found to contain tubercle bacilli should be sufficient answer to those opposing pasteurisation of milk.

(d) Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-46.

The following licences were issued during the year:—

Licence to pasteurise and sell " Pasteurised " Milk ...	1
Dealer's licence to retail " Tuberculin Tested " Milk	1
Supplementary Licence to retail " Pasteurised Milk "	1
Supplementary Licence to retail " Tuberculin Tested " Milk	1

There is only one Pasteurising establishment in the borough and several inspections of the plant were made during the year—18 samples of milk processed at this establishment were found to conform to the Regulations.

Of 9 other samples of pasteurised milk taken from a retailer whose depot is outside the borough boundary three failed to satisfy the methylene blue test; Copies of the reports were passed to the Sanitary Inspector for the adjoining Rural District who carried out investigations and located certain faults in processing, these were accepted to be more or less normal "teething" troubles, which could be experienced by any milk purveyor in his first venture with a pasteurisation plant.

Many retailers although not using the special designation "Pasteurised" in relation to milk they retail, do in actual fact obtain bulk supplies of accommodation milk which has been pasteurised; therefore, the high proportion of milk now retailed in the borough which has been previously pasteurised leads one to assume that there would be no creation of insuperable difficulties if and when the sale only of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milk should become compulsory.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

The number of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture of sausages, prepared food, etc., at the end of 1948 was 30.

There are 24 bakehouses in the borough and twenty-seven visits were made to these premises. It was found necessary in some cases to draw attention to the need for improving the standard of cleanliness under which bread and confectionery was being prepared; regular cleansing of food premises and all apparatus and utensils connected with food preparation is of considerable importance and in a well conducted business this should be a routine for which time is allotted. It was unsatisfactory to record that in certain bakehouses which were visited the adoption of such a routine was not very apparent and appropriate warnings were given in cases where food was being prepared or stored in dirty premises.

Eighteen inspections were made of cafes and cafe kitchens and much time was spent explaining the hygienic standards at which to aim in premises of this type. In view of increased incidence of food poisoning in recent years the question of food hygiene is now exercising the minds of many Local Authorities in the country. From local observations it was noted that some cafes in the borough were maintaining a good hygienic standard but in other cases improvements were suggested in the methods of cleansing utensils used in the preparation and serving of food and drink, particularly in regard to washing up of crockery and cutlery. Two faults noticed on occasions were the use of water which is not sufficiently hot for the purpose and too infrequent changing of washing up water. There is no doubt that much work remains to be done on the question of food hygiene.

Twenty-two inspections were made of fish frying premises and since the end of the war there has been a noticeable effort on the part of the fish fryers to improve the structural conditions of preparing rooms and the conducting of their business in accordance with hygienic principles.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Slaughtering of animals intended for human consumption continued to be carried out at the Government Controlled Slaughter houses which serves the needs of both Grantham Borough and the West Kesteven Rural District.

The number of animals slaughtered was less than in the previous year, and all were subject to inspection before distribution of the carcase meat and offals to the retail shops.

The inspection of meat to determine its fitness or otherwise for human consumption seems to be one of the duties performed by Sanitary Officers of which many of the general public are unaware; a study of the statistics given below on the percentage of disease found in food animals and the amount of meat rejected as unfit for human consumption will emphasise the importance attached to this work, and indicates the extent to which the interests of the consumer is being looked after in this locality.

	Cattle (ex Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1004	181	340	3431	174
Number Inspected	1004	181	340	3431	174

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS

Whole Carcasses condemned ...	3	6	12	16	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	191	43	3	69	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	19.3	27.0	4.4	2.4	13.7

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY

Whole Carcasses condemned ...	6	5	—	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	135	72	—	—	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	14.0	42.5	—	—	5.1

The entire carcases and organs of the following animals were condemned for the reasons stated.

5	Cows	...	...	Generalised Tuberculosis
3	Heifers	...	...	do.
2	Steers	...	...	do.
3	Pigs	...	...	do.
2	Cows	...	...	Septicaemia
1	Steer	...	...	do.
1	Sheep	...	...	do.
1	Bullock	...	...	Sapraemia
1	Steer	...	...	do.
1	Cow	...	...	do.
1	Cow	...	...	ill bled
1	Pig	...	...	do.
1	Cow	...	...	Emaciated & dropsical (Johnes)
1	Cow	...	...	Septic Mastitis
6	Calves	...	...	Immature
1	Calf	...	...	Immature and wet
2	Calves	...	...	Pyaemia
1	Calf	...	...	Hydremia
1	Calf	...	...	Croker
1	Calf	...	...	Septic Peritonitis
4	Sheep	...	...	Dropsical
2	Sheep	...	...	Emaciated and Dropsical
1	Sheep	...	...	Gangrenous Pneumonia
1	Sheep	...	...	Extensive Injury
1	Sheep	...	...	Oedema
1	Sheep	...	...	Tainted
1	Sheep	...	...	Decomposition and Braxy
1	Sheep	...	...	Leukemia
1	Sheep	...	...	Moribund
1	Lamb	...	...	Pneumonia
1	Ewe	...	...	Septic Pneumonia
1	Bull	...	...	Tuberculosis with Emaciation
1	Pig	...	...	Acute Swine Erysipelas
1	Pig	...	...	Moribund and badly set
1	Pig	...	...	Arthritis and Rickets

The total weight of meat and offals condemned as unfit for human consumption was 10 ton 19 cwts. 0 qrs. 11 lbs., of which 6 ton 0 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lbs. was affected with tuberculosis.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Eleven licences were granted during the year to slaughter or stun animals by means of a mechanically operated instrument. The number of licenced slaughter-men on the register at the 31st December, 1948, was 18.

HOUSING STATISTICS

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

Statistics of new houses erected in the borough during 1948 as supplied by G. H. Dickinson, Esq., L.R.I.B.A., Borough Housing Architect are as follows:—

1 Built by Local Authority.

(a) B.I.S.F. permanent prefabricated steel-framed houses. Site 4, Harrowby Lane	...	...	83
(b) Concrete permanent prefabricated houses (Easiform) Site 5, Harrowby Lane	...	...	180
(c) Traditional Brick Houses:			
(i) New Beacon Road, Site 1	...	...	30
(ii) New Beacon Road, Site 2	6
(iii) Harrowby Lane, Site 5	7
(iv) Belton Lane, Site 6	2
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	Total	...	308

2 Built by Private Enterprise:

Traditional Brick Houses	Total	...	27
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HOUSING ACT, 1936—UNFIT HOUSES.

The following statistics relate to action taken during 1948:—

Total number of dwelling houses inspected under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	15
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made—Section 11	...	...	...	...	12
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	5
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted not to let again for human habitation	...	...	...	...	3
Number of families rehoused by the Council from houses subject to Demolition Orders or undertakings not to relet again for human habitation	...	...	...	...	10

HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING

Number of houses visited upon complaint of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	29
Number of houses found to be overcrowded during the year	...	...	...	...	...	11
Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	20
Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	99
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved by the Council during the year	...	...	...	...	...	7

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. TAYLOR.

